GERANIUM MACULATUM.

Common Cranesbill.

PLATE VIII.

In common language the term Geranium includes all that extensive tribe of plants comprised by the old genus of that name, and principally characterised by their beaked fruit and five seeds which are scattered by means of awns. L'Heritier has divided this family into three distinct genera, under different orders in the artificial class *Monadelphia*. These are *Erodium*, having five stamens, five nectariferous scales and glands, and the awns of the fruit twisted and bearded. *Pelargonium*, which includes most of the Cape species so commonly cultivated among us, having about seven stamens, an irregular corolla, and a nectareous tube running down the peduncle. Lastly, *Geranium* having ten stamens, a regular corolla, five nec-

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